



HISTORIC ... Beverley, and John Arlidge with Emily, inset.

## Tasty little dram a steal at \$1.6 million

WHISKEY Gully Wines featuring the historic home where travel tycoon Skroo Turner grew up is for sale for \$1.6 million because the owners want to move to Paris.

The 104ha property at Severnlea on the Granite Belt is part vineyard and part cattle station and features the 1870s homestead and restaurant and two holiday cabins.

The property is owned by former ABC journalist John Arlidge and his wife Denice, whose only child Emily, 18, is studying in France.

"Emily is in Rouen in Normandy, and we felt we should be on the road to Rouen too," he said.

"Life has been very kind to us here but we thought, 'What the heck'. It's a dream for us.

"We have no regrets here at all and may even return to the district one day.

"It was a great place to bring up Emily and we had a wonderful life. But it's time for a change."

Arlidge said he was a

treechanger who enjoyed the Granite Belt's "great arts community, good wine and amazing local produce."

"I suspect we are about to start missing at least some of those things," he said.

Arlidge studied maths and physics at the then Queensland Institute of Technology and dropped out when he won a journalism cadetship at the ABC.

He and his wife planted 2.5ha of grapes producing around 20,000 bottles a year and have won many medals.

"The wines we are best known for are our Black Rod Shiraz, Upper House Cabernet — we sent some to Paul Keating to see if he thought it was unrepresentative swill — and our chardonnays, the Beverley and Reserve," he said.

"However, we also do a decent dessert wine made from colom-bard grapes called Nectar."

Arlidge, 55, a blues guitarist, hopes to explore his love of jazz in Paris.